

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC, NL (MEIJER, WILLEM)

SUBJ: IVP: VISIT OF STATE SECRETARY WILLEM MEIJER

REF: THE HAGUE A-28 DATED FEBRUARY 5, 1974

FOR EUR/WE RICHARD VINE FROM TANGUY

1. STATE SECRETARY MEIJER HAD LUNCH WITH ME TODAY (FIRST DAY HE WAS AVAILABLE) TO TALK ABOUT HIS VISIT TO THE US AS IVP GRANTEE, STARTING NEXT MONDAY, APRIL 1. PURPOSE THIS MESSAGE IS TO COMMEND MEIJER TO YOU AND ASK YOU TO TAKE A PERSONAL HAND, AS FAR AS YOUR TIME PERMITS, IN MAKING HIS VISIT A SUCCESS.

2. MEIJER'S PROGRAM INTERESTS WERE DESCRIBED IN REF AIRGRAM. RE HIS INTEREST IN SOCIAL WELFARE AND ADULT EDUCATION, I RECOMMEND APPOINTMENTS WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS OF HEW, ALSO A MEETING WITH MAYOR WASHINGTON AS A PREFACE TO A FIRSTHAND LOOK AT THE DISTRICT'S SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS. MEIJER'S INTEREST IN DRUG QUESTIONS RUNS MORE TO THE MEDICAL AND REHABILITATIVE ASPECTS RATHER THAN ENFORCEMENT. HE IS ALSO INTERESTED IN HEARING THE VIEWS OF US OFFICIALS ON THE LEGAL TREATMENT OF THE USE OF MARIJUANA, WHERE SOME GOV AUTHORITIES HAVE MANIFESTED A DESIRE TO MODIFY THE SINGLE CONVENTION. I HOPE THAT MEIJER CAN MEET WITH AMBASSADOR HANDLEY AND APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE DEA.

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3. AT AGE 35 MEIJER IS ONE OF A RELATIVELY SMALL GROUP

OF YOUNG "NEW LEFT" POLITICIANS WHO ARE NOW HELPING TO SHAPE DUTCH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY. HE STARTS OUT WITH A FAVORABLE PREJUDICE TOWARD THE US, ESPECIALLY THE OPENNESS OF OUR SOCIETY, AND LOOKS FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY OF LEARNING ABOUT AND DISCUSSING TRENDS OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN OUR COUNTRY. HE SHOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING SEVERAL OF THE YOUNGER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EXCHANGING IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES WITH HIM ON THIS SUBJECT. I BELIEVE THAT GOVERNOR HOLTON COULD BE HELPFUL IN MAKING THESE APPOINTMENTS.

4. MEIJER EMPHASIZED THAT HE WANTS VERY MUCH TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON AT THE END OF HIS VISIT TO TALK ABOUT HIS OBSERVATIONS AND IMPRESSIONS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS. HIS PROGRAM SHOULD BE DRAWN UP ACCORDINGLY. FINALLY, MEIJER SHOULD HAVE PLENTY OF EXPOSURE ON HIS ITINERARY OUTSIDE OF WASHINGTON TO THE PROGRAMS AND PROBLEMS HE HEARS ABOUT DURING HIS MEETINGS WITH OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE WILL ENJOY AN AMPLE EXPERIENCE OF HOME HOSPITALITY.

5. MANY THANKS FOR WHATEVER YOU CAN DO TO GIVE MEIJER A WELL-CONCEIVED PERSON-TO PERSON PROGRAM. THE DIVIDENDS TO THE US IN THE COMING YEARS WILL BE IMPORTANT. REGARDS,
GOULD

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